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James P. Torgerson
President and Chief Executive Officer

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February 17, 2009

Honorable Members of the Transportation Committee
Connecticut General Assembly
Room 2300, Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Legislators,

I am writing to encourage you to support legislation that would invest in the continued operation and future growth of Tweed New Haven Airport. This airport is critically needed for the businesses and people in the Southwestern part of the State to encourage travel and promote economic development activity.

As a member of the Regional Leadership Council and Chair of the Regional Growth Partnership, I believe we are all voicing the strong support for the airport. From a business standpoint it is critical to have a regional airport to allow convenient air service in order to transact business rather than having to deal with traffic congestion and extended travel time.

It is hard to imagine that a state as populous as Connecticut would have the limited airport service that currently exists in the New Haven area and provide an alternative the NY airports. This is clearly a limitation to the future economic development in the state.

We all understand the significant economic challenges facing us but without a forward looking strategy, business development will not occur as rapidly. I encourage you to strengthen our long-term economic position and help enhance our quality of life with your support of the Tweed Airport.

Sincerely,



James P. Torgerson